

Presentation

It is a good time for the Methodist Church to receive its Theological Journal. It is a good time because it fills a long-time need. Effectively, there has been a deep need for material for reflection that, in itself, motivates the conscious action of the Church. The Theological Journal of the Methodist Church, whose title is “Caminhando”, is a project approved by the General Counsel and has as its general purpose to “promote theological dialogue within the Methodist Church and with other Churches”. Among the specific objectives are the following:

1. offer basis and tools for practical ministry and for the leadership of the Church;
2. provide biblical-theological reflection directed to the Church and its institutions, and pastoral development;
3. spread knowledge regarding theological works, offering short commentaries and
4. motivate theological reflection as a practice of all sectors of the Church – lay and clergy.

These objectives are an integral part of the philosophy of the Editorial Council. As such:

- 1) the journal should be marked by its pedagogical aspect in the structure and language of the text, seeking to reach all pastors and lay leadership;
- 2) the text should be composed in such a way as to deepen and/or clarify the theological perspective of the Church, showing research and coherence;
- 3) the Journal should open paths (constructing, tracing lines) for Methodist theology, based on the analysis of its tradition while confronting Brazilian and Latin American reality, and making it concrete in pastoral practice;
- 4) “even while having the priority of presenting subjects that attend the concerns of the Methodist Church, it remains open to the possibility of the publication of texts of recognized authors from other confessions” that will enrich the objectives of the Journal.

As President of the Editorial Council we thank the members of this Council and the Editor, Rev. CLORY TRINDADE DE OLIVEIRA for the valuable contribution, as well as Rev. Prof. FILEMON DE ASSIS, for the typographical revision. And we offer a special word of thanks to the collaborators of this first number.

Thus, we have, from now forward, an “open forum” for reflection of the Church, whose practice will aid us to grow in the direction of the conscious and transformational mission of the Theological Journal, born with this purpose; these are, also, the vows of the Editorial Council.

Rev. ISAC ALBERTO RODRIGUES AÇO

President of the Editorial Council